

REMARKS

As a result of the foregoing Amendment, additional features have been added to claim 1 which will serve to distinguish the present invention over the prior art of record.

Specifically, Applicants respectfully submit that the arguments presented by the Examiner with respect to the disclosure of a barrier layer of SiO_x as well as an adhesive layer for such a barrier material is technically not correct.

The Examiner initially states that paragraph 0020 of the reference describes the use of a barrier layer of SiO_x. However, Applicants submit that this is not correct. The paragraph in question describes the use of nano materials which are produced on the basis of carbon. Lattice structures are introduced into these nano materials in order to stabilize the materials. Described as examples for such lattice structures are, on the one hand, amorphous carbon and, as a second example, a silicon stabilized with oxygen.

Consequently, the barrier layer of carbon additionally contains portions of silicon and oxygen. However, the barrier

layer does not consist of SiOx.

It is also not correct to state that the paragraph 0078 of the reference to Darras describes the use of an adhesive layer between the barrier layer and the material of the workpiece. The paragraph in question merely describes the use of hydrogen peroxide in an adhesive layer between the barrier layer and the material of the workpiece. The reference merely describes that the use of hydrogen peroxide carbon atoms in the area of the material of the workpiece means that the carbon atoms are present in the area of the material of the workpiece in accordance with a predeterminable radiant pattern.

It is also incorrect to state that paragraph 0078 merely describes the use of the material of the workpiece. Rather, it is merely described that the use of hydrogen peroxide causes the activation of the material of the workpiece and thereby facilitates an improved adhesion of a barrier layer on the basis of carbon atoms. Consequently, the hydrogen peroxide merely travels along side an activation of the surface and is no longer contained in the later material of the coating. The hydrogen peroxide also only makes it possible to improve the adhesion of carbon atoms in hydrogen peroxide as a possibility for improving

the material of the work piece. This is not useful when applying a barrier layer of SiOx.

Independently of a missing disclosure with respect to a barrier layer of SiOx, and the use of an adhesive layer in the reference to Darras, it is respectfully submitted that it would make sense to initially once again further define the differences of the present invention as claimed over the art of record.

Reconsideration and allowance of the present application are respectfully requested.

Any additional fees or charges required at this time in connection with this application may be charged to Patent and Trademark Office Deposit Account No. 11-1835.

Respectfully submitted,

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CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, PO Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on June 16, 2010.

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